

The Messenger Christ Church Barnstaple

www.christchurch_barnstaple.org

February

2017

◆ Gavin Reid
Yachtsman
of the Year
- See page 12

◆ New Year's Eve
Barn Dance and
Games night
- see page 14

◆ Young Families
work - see page 9

◆ W.O.R.K.
Read about our new
Church Project –
page 5

◆ Café Church
Christingle
– see page 8

Calendar

February 2017

Thur	2nd	10.30am	- 1.45pm Two Bridges Café	
		2.30pm	Ladies Fellowship	- an afternoon with Sylvia Jones
		7.30pm	Bible Study	
Sun	5th	10.30am	Rev Don Macalister	Communion
		6.30pm	Geoff Harding	
Mon	6th	7.15pm	Elders' Meeting	
Tues	7th	7.00pm	'Parentalk'	see page 9
Thur	9th	10.30am	- 1.45pm Two Bridges Café	
		2.30pm	Ladies Fellowship	- speaker Rev. Caroline Raby
		7.30pm	Bible Study	
Sat	11th	8.30am	Men's Breakfast	- speaker Guy Byham
Sun	12th	10.30am	Deacon Joan Cole	
		4.30pm	Café Church	
		6.30pm	Circuit Service at Sticklepath - Guy Byham	
Mon	13th	7.30pm	Friendship Group	- Age Concern
Tues	14th	10.00am	- 12noon 'Sound it Out'	
Thur	16th	10.30am	- 1.45pm Two Bridges Café - half term break	
		2.30pm	Ladies Fellowship	- speaker Mrs Beverley Bedford
		7.30pm	Bible Study	
Fri	17th		<i>Last day for items for the March Messenger</i>	
Sun	19th	10.30am	Rev Don Macalister - Family Service	
		6.30pm	Rev Robert Hurley	Communion
Thur	23rd	10.30am	- 1.45pm Two Bridges Café	
		2.30pm	Ladies Fellowship	- speaker Mrs Tricia Kent
		7.30pm	Bible Study	
		7.30pm	Friendship Group	- Motor Neurone Disease, Sylvia Wiseman
Sat	25th	3.00pm	- 5.00pm X-Site	see page 9
Sun	26th	10.30am	Rev Don Macalister	
		6.30pm	Rev Tony Coates	
Mon	27th	2.30pm	'4th Monday House Group	
			If interested and for more details please contact Tricia on 01271 32425	
Tues	28th	10.00am	- 12noon 'Sound it Out'	
March	1st	7.30pm	Circuit Service for Ash Wednesday at Christ Church Barnstaple	
				see page 4
	11th	7.00pm	Quiz evening	see below
Thursdays & Fridays			Lent Course	see page 4

Quiz Saturday 11th March at **7pm**. Start thinking about getting your team together and getting those "little grey cells" back in action. Your Quiz Master will be Mr Dave Stevens who will no doubt put his own slant to the questions. Look for further details in the Church Notices.

Spring Fair Saturday 6th May 9am-12 noon.

Message

Dear Friends,

There was a mother whose son enjoyed looking for typographical errors in the church notices during the Sunday morning service, especially as his mother was the one who produced the notice sheet. At the service on February 14 one year he found a mistake which seemed strangely appropriate for Valentine's Day: "An invitation is extended to all those who love in this area to worship regularly with us."

I have a very vivid memory of being nine years old when on February the 29th Christine, a very pretty friend of my sister, asked me to marry her. To say her request took me by surprise would be an understatement. It was the first time I had ever heard of the old tradition of February 29th being the one day when a woman may propose to a man (I think times have changed quite a bit since then), but despite my shock I quickly accepted.

However, being two years older and far more sophisticated than I Christine merely laughed at me and went back to bouncing around on her pogo stick. I took it she'd changed her mind! Looking back I am sure it was all for the best.

It's good to have a special day to celebrate and give thanks for those we love, and to make that special effort to let them know. It's wonderful, breath-taking, when love comes to us out of the blue and we are surprised to find that we are completely loved and accepted for who we are. Which is why I like that church notice I began with and pray that it is our invitation too.

"An invitation is extended to all those who love (and wish to be loved) in this area – come and join us in worshipping the God of love."

Grace and Peace



Prayers for December

5th Feb

Sometimes we try to bring the sweetness of sugar to our world; but we know sugar doesn't satisfy for long, and we just keep craving more.

A salt cellar holds such a lot of salt, however, and just a tiny pinch can bring so much lasting flavour. Thank you for the opportunities you give us to be your salt in your wonderful world. Amen.

12th Feb

Lord, I know I sometimes think things I would rather not, and act in ways I would rather not. Sometimes I don't even know what I'm doing until it is too late.

Please help me to be able to stop, think and pray before I act.
And help me to become the person I know you want me to be. Amen.

19th Feb

Lord, I'm not sure I have enemies, but there are definitely some people I am more comfortable with than others.

I pray that this week I will reach out to someone new, to share your love with them in any way I can. Be with me, Lord. Amen.

26th Feb

Lord, whatever today brings, whatever I am doing, help me to take a few moments out to remember you on that mountainside, shining, for all to see.

May your love, power and presence shine through me, especially when I least expect it. Amen.

There will be a Circuit service on Ash Wednesday, March 1st, here at Christ Church Barnstaple at 7.30pm. This will include the imposition of ashes (a mark of penitence) for those wishing to take part.

Introducing the Lent course: 'At The Cross'

The forty days of Lent represent the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring temptation and preparing to begin his ministry. In the early church, Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism. Today it's an opportunity for Christians to make time for reflection, study and prayer. If in Lent you choose to *give up* cake, or chocolate, or *take up* some new opportunity of service, great – but that's not a substitute for making time for God!

This year Lent begins on March 1st (Ash Wednesday). The Lent Course will run for the following six weeks, introducing us to six individuals in the gospels, their experiences and reactions as they stand at the foot of the cross. Two groups will run at church (exact dates and times to follow):

Thursday evenings

Friday afternoons

In order to make sure we have sufficient copies of the course booklet, please sign the list at church, or speak to Rev. Don, Rev. Marilyn or Shirley Baxter. (If you can't manage either of these times but would still like to follow the course, please let us know).

We'd love as many people as possible to join in this journey of discovery – and if you've never been part of such a group before, maybe now's a good time to start!

Rev Marilyn

As we start to support our new church project WORK it is good to hear a little more about this Christian Charity working with the people of Kenya:-

The Chairman's Visit 2016

In April I made my biennial visit to Western Kenya to meet the people with whom and for whom our Charity works. It was an action packed ten days, involving meetings (which in Kenya are never short!) with various widows' groups and gatherings of our students, and visits to the two health clinics we support and other institutions, to see some of the projects we have completed since my last visit in 2014.

Visiting a widows' group is always a moving experience. This year I met the new group at Faida – deep in the countryside outside our county town of Bungoma. Mary-Jane had been introduced to this group last year and they are really poor. One of the first things we did for them was to repair some of the houses which were leaking badly and in danger of total collapse. We have set up a table bank for them: we give about £500 for a group of 10 widows and from this each widow can borrow a certain amount which might finance a small business or buy seed and fertiliser in order to get a better harvest from the family land.

We also made arrangements for Sister Beatrice – a Grace and Compassion nun, who is an 'aca' farmer (particularly with micro projects) to visit and give training on how to make money from their land. This might be tips on making the land more productive, the best crops to try or how to rear baby chicks or piglets which can subsequently be sold on at a profit.

The widows' group at Namboboto told us what they had used their table bank on: one widow has started a fish business – she goes to Uganda to buy fish more cheaply and brings them to the local market to sell at a profit. Others have started businesses in selling kerosene or cereals or vegetables. Once they can borrow the first (to us small) amount of capital, they can begin to make a profit and slowly pay back the table bank, as well as support themselves and often several grandchildren.

I was pleased that my visit this year coincided with meetings of students, because the main work of W.O.R.K. is the education of orphans so that they can in the future have employment and be self-sufficient, able to support a family and also help others. I came away from these meeting with a deep sense of the appreciation our students have for you, their donors. Without you they would not have had a chance for education: with you, we now have a growing list of young people with qualifications and employment in a variety of careers. I also sensed the keenness felt by the vast majority of them to learn, to work hard and to achieve.

I am sure something of their gratitude will be communicated to you in the letters Mary-Jane asks them to write as part of our days together.

In the last couple of years we have been supporting a Youth Polytechnic at Sinoko. It was good visiting them, to see the dormitory we have just built for the girls (it's so important for the girls to board at schools and colleges

for a variety of reasons), and to donate to the students the boxes of tools and sewing machines you have provided for our new plumbers, electricians, seamstresses, builders and mechanics.

My visit also included visiting the new male ward and minor theatre at Namboboto Clinic and the new hostel for our students at Kakamega – a place of refuge for those orphans who have nowhere to stay during college holidays. Of course there are challenges too, and I also joined Mary-Jane in various discussions with our local helpers to ensure that the resources W.O.R.K. provides will be efficiently and productively spent in the coming years.

I came home tired and travel-weary but immensely grateful to all of you for making so much good work possible. Thank you.

Fr Adrian Toffolo

Chair of W.O.R.K.

*.....and to catch up with old friends in Romania.....
(not many of us can write as fluently as Daniel in another language)*

An update on the fire engine and the first response vehicle.

The Suski Jimnny first response vehicle

We received first the response vehicle in May this year, we were looking for a 4x4 as we have about 1400 hectares of forest and about 1600 hectares of fields which are under our jurisdiction as volunteers. It was a big relief because in case of emergency we are able now to respond very quick.

Since we've got the 4x4 we used it in a house fire, while the fire engine was coming to the incident we manage to collect the other volunteers, as well we used it to block the traffic as the incident was at 2 in the morning and hoses from 2 fire trucks ours and the fire brigade from Sebis were all over the road. We had 3 field fires where it made such a big difference to be able to get there in a very short time especially as one of the fields fires were very remote. As well it is very helpful for all the charity work, the food parcels delivery, if anyone is broken down or sometimes stuck in mud it was good to be able to have a tool which we could use to help those around us. It was driven here by Steve and Gelvin which were joined by Adam. We had a few days with Gelvin and Adam which manage to give us training in how to use the fire engine. While they were here there was a small incident when a house could of light on fire but we managed together with them to secure the house safely.

A week after they left a Saturday afternoon we got our first call. A fridge due to electrical fault light on fire and the house with it. Freshly trained we arrived on the scene with the fire engine within minutes. We've manage to secure all the civilians and attend the fire as we were trained. By the time the professional fire brigade got on the scene the fire was out. At that moment I think the whole village realised what a blessing this fire engine was for all of us. Later that afternoon as we were walking through the village we were stopped and appreciated by everyone in the village saying what a

blessing every volunteer is for everyone.

The following Saturday at 2 a clock in the morning one of our volunteers was walking home saw a lot of smoke coming from the back of the house within minutes he could see the flames rising as big as the house. He called me and a few other volunteers at 2:05. At 2:10 me and him were in the 4x4 driving to the incident. Our first priority until the driver got the fire engine there was to wake up the family and get them out as they weren't aware of the fire on the back of their house. We manage to get all 6 members plus a baby girl out of the house and safe. The danger of this particular incident was the fact that the house next door was in imminent danger as well so we had to protect the neighbour house while fighting the fire. 20-30 minutes later the professional fire brigade got there and together we manage after 2 hours to put the fire off and secure the house. Both of the teams used about 13000 litres of water. Taking in consideration the size of the fire and the fact that it was arson which meant it had an acceleration of some sort, I believe the damage was minimum. The family did lose 3 pigs out of 5 and if I recall right 35 chickens, and a damage was on the barn which was attached to the house.

Since we had the fire engine we had 6 incidents. But because we are properly equipped and have a properly equipped truck we manage to do our jobs safe, as none of the volunteers got hurt, and save the lives of the people of our community and that is all about. We want to thank all of you for your support and for the fact that you invested in us in our community. Because of you 1500 people sleep and live in peace knowing that they are protected and helped in case of any emergency's.

Since we receive the 4x4 and the fire engine with all the equipment the community is more united, we gain a lot of respect from everyone in the village and we gained respect from the professional fire brigade as they all know how valuable and precious is when community works together as one big team.

Thank very much

Blessing Daniel Ispas

Do you like to see flowers in church? Do you find the pre-service hymn helps to start the service in an atmosphere ready for worship? If you have answered yes to either of these questions would you like to be more active in your support? If so please add your name to the chart of dates in the vestibule or see Gill Greenland and become more involved in Sunday morning worship.



Many thanks.

Church Directories

The updated church directories for 2017 are now available. If you would like one for personal use please see Mike Smith.

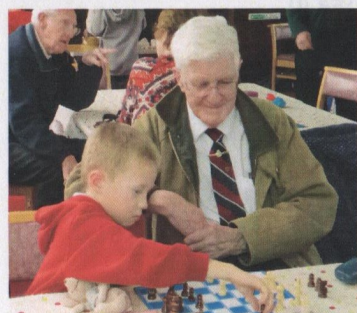
Sunday Club's Hosanna Rock 18th December



know how valuable and precious is when community works together as one
from the occasional fire brigade as they all
gain a lot of respect from everyone in the



The next
Cafe Church
themed on
prayer, led by
Guy, is planned
for Sunday
12th February
4.30pm



Young Families Work

What an awesome Christmas period we had at Christ Church! Thank you to everyone who contributed to making all the services and events so special. Work in the kitchen is always an important part of our ministry at Christ Church and I must highlight Sylvia's invaluable support to our Young Families Work not just over the Christmas period, but tirelessly throughout the year. On the day of the Nativity Trail, Tricia, Anthea and Jo Tibbles also worked wonders in the kitchen. Thank you to Eff, Gordon and Pam who knitted and crocheted beautiful angels for the Christmas trees of young families connected to our church. Many of these gifts were personally hand-delivered and they were very gratefully received. John and Gil handcrafted a superb Innkeeper's door which was featured in Barnstaple High Street for the Nativity Trail as well as at our Parents and Toddler's Nativity and Sunday Club's Hosanna Rock. This must have taken many hours to make – many thanks to both John and Gil. New costumes were perfectly made by Celia for 'Mary' (Annabella) and 'Joseph' (Alex). Thank you Celia!

Joy, Andy and Sandy bought presents for all our toddlers and also organised the Christmas trip to Quince Honey Farm which was much enjoyed by all. Maureen bought presents for our Sunday Club children and the table-tennis bats and balls were especially appreciated.

Maisie and Callum have done numerous odd-jobs in houses and gardens over the last six months to raise money for their trip to Kira Farm, Uganda with Amigos. On Christmas Eve our Sunday Club children went on a 12 mile sponsored cycle ride and raised £65 and the New Year's Eve Party raised £180 (see Mary Ruhleman's report).

The largest fund-raiser over the Christmas period was the 'Military Wives and Schools Concert' which, after expenses, raised an incredible £550 for Amigos and £550 for the Military Wives Foundation. Thank you everyone for your support.

Parentalk sessions for parents and carers of teenagers will take place in Room 4 on Tuesdays in February at 7pm. Café Church, themed on prayer and led by Guy, is on Sunday 12th February at 4:30pm. The next X-Site event for 7-11 year olds is on Saturday 25th February 3pm-5pm. Café Church themed on 'Mary and Martha' is on Sunday 12th March and the planning meeting for this Café Church is on Tuesday 14th February at 11:30am. Café Church themed on Easter is on Sunday 9th April and the planning meeting for this is on Tuesday 21st March at 10:30am. Experience Easter for Yeo Valley School is on Thursday 30th March. Our next Holiday Club for 5-11 year olds is on Thursday 13th April at 10am.

I am looking forward to attending the Methodist Conference for Lay Employees and Children and Youth Workers at High Leigh, Hoddesdon for 3 days in March. I will feedback on what I learn from this on my return.

May God bless you in 2017, Jo



10am - 12noon at Christ Church, Bear St, Barnstaple

Christ Church
Methodist & United
Reformed Church

TUESDAYS
JANUARY 24TH
FEBRUARY 14TH 28TH
MARCH 14TH 28TH
APRIL 11TH 25TH



SOUND IT OUT

Come and raise your spirits through singing and music
NO musical talent required

Sound It Out is a fortnightly group, particularly aimed at supporting people with memory loss and their carers.

To find out more, talk to:

Jo Grant: jogrant-christchurch@outlook.com

Sally Blackmore: scheme.barnstaplechaplain@mha.org.uk

Rebecca Bartlett: lveathome.barnstaple@mha.org.uk 01271 321574

MAIN SPONSORS: The Bridge Trust & Barnstaple Rotary Shop Grant

Barnstaple Grant Providing Charity

Barnstaple Municipal Charities administer a charity fund for residents of the borough of Barnstaple.

This charity focuses on the provision of small grants (maximum £200) for those needing urgent support or for educational or apprenticeship materials.

Applications are considered in January and June each year. Emergency applications will be considered at the discretion of the trustees.

For additional information please email The Secretary at riverhouse2@sky.com

If you know anyone who may qualify please pass this information on to them.



REJOICE

SING WITH US

worship

prayer & praise

CHRIST CHURCH

BARNSTAPLE

SUNDAY 5TH MARCH

6.30 - 7.30PM

Two Bridges Enterprise Cafe



A variety of food & drinks on offer

Come & Try Our Hand Cooked Meals & Sweet Treats & Meals

At Competitive Prices

**All Cooked & served By
KS4 Students from Pathfield**

At Christ Church
on Thursdays
except during
school holidays.

Open for
Tea, Coffee & Cakes
10:30am - 2:00pm

Lunches from
12noon.
Highly
recommended



Our great response to the Shoebox appeal goes to the International Aid Trust.

Ann Taylor received a wonderful story in a Christmas letter from a friend about a shoe box distributed by a similar organisation. It read:

"The past three weeks I have helped with Samaritan Purse Shoebox processing. This time at an Anglican Church in Bournemouth. We heard an amazing story from HQ.

A girl aged 13/14 came into a distribution centre in Mexico carrying a baby, obviously on her own. As you know in Mexico the 'underworld' carries out murders and people go missing without trace. This had happened to this girl's family. She had been wandering and was abused.

A shoebox was offered to her and she was delighted, like a child. Next thing was staff noticed tears flowing - why? They asked her and there was a card with a photo in the box - it was of her Aunt and Uncle. They had filled it from their home in the States where they had gone as immigrants. How wonderful is this - out of 9 million boxes from the USA the right one found its way to this young girl! God is amazing!"

Alistair Reid was asked to share his son's story with us. It's a story you may have heard on the news but not realised that this proud father has recently joined our congregation. Some of you will know Alistair, the rest of us have yet to make his acquaintance. Sadly Alistair's late wife was seriously ill and not able to get to Christ Church but the whole family were in our prayers at that time.

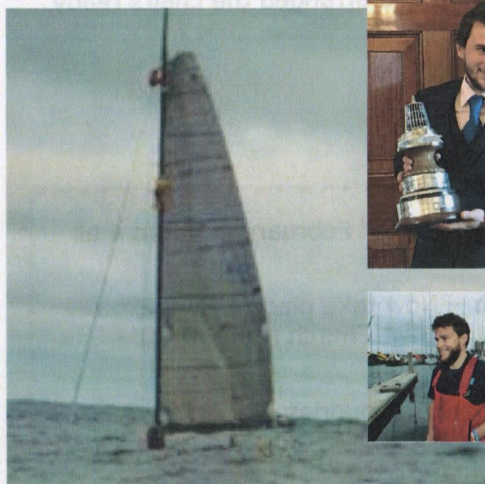
Gavin Reid, 28 year old son of Alistair Reid and his late wife Hilary, has been given UK Sailing's highest accolade. At the London Boat Show in January, it was announced he had been made the Yachtsman of the Year. He follows in the footsteps of Sir Ben Ainslie, Sir Robin Knox-Johnston and Dame Ellen MacArthur. This year he beat off an Olympic gold medallist and world champion.

Gavin's award was made as a result of a dramatic rescue off the Australian Coast in Jan 2016 while competing in the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race. His boat, Mission Performance, received a distress call from a yacht that was not in the race, just after midnight. They suspended racing and went to its assistance. They found a boat that was drifting out of control with a wrapped propeller, damaged mainsail and a sailor who had been stuck 70 feet up the mast for 7 hours. Two of the remaining four crew members were injured. The dangerous sea state made it impossible to transfer him across the deck, so Gavin jumped overboard in rough seas and swam/was towed 100 metres to the other boat, climbed the mast and spent two hours untangling the man, while being constantly buffeted by the elements. The rescue was all the more noteworthy as Gavin has had a 93% unaided hearing loss since birth so could not really communicate with the stranded man and before the start of the race in August 2015, he had no sailing experience. The rescue embodied the unwritten law of the sea that sailors go to the aid of those in distress.

This is the fifth award that Gavin has collected and follows the Henri Lloyd Seamanship award, The Australian Yachting Association Bravery Award, the American Sailing Association Outstanding Seamanship Award, and the Royal Ocean Racing Club Outstanding Seamanship Cup. He now intends to pursue a career in sailing.

The Church will not know Gavin but they have prayed for him when Hilary died last July. Nor will they know he was a desperately ill baby who was christened in hospital on his second day as he was not expected to survive. It is wonderful to see the impact of all those prayers so many years ago and to see the fruits of that in that he is now the one saving lives.

Alistair Reid



Parent and Toddlers' Nativity and Christmas Story



New Year's Eve Barn Dance and Games Night

What a wonderful night we had at Christ Church, we all enjoyed it and the atmosphere was friendly and full of fun. All age groups from 6 weeks to eighty were joining in the fun and games. There was something for everyone from table-top games to word competitions, barn dances and run around games.

Also a game that took us back to our childhood, showing twenty objects then covering them up and writing them down.

Jacket potatoes, baked beans and vegetarian food was on the menu. All prepared by Marilyn and Anthea and cleared up by our happy band of helpers.

Donations went towards Maisie's and Callum's visits to Uganda with Amigos. Jo Grant, our youth leader, arranged the evening with some of her band. The young people hoovered up the Church and arranged the chairs ready for our Sunday Worship.

Thank you all

Mary Ruhleman.

Bible Study - will begin again on Thursday 2nd February in Room 4 at 7:30.

Prayers for the persecuted church – Now take place on the 2nd Monday of every month at Barnstaple Baptist Church from 10:30 – 11:30am. Everyone is welcome.

Please contact Shirley Baxter if you have any queries.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

The Revd. Peter Whatton is leading this pilgrimage between 20th and 28th November and has invited anyone interested in joining the party to contact him on 01225 971607 or at peter.annwhatton@gmail.com as soon as possible. More details can be found on the leaflet which is pinned to the notice board in the corridor.

(Many of you will remember Peter from when he was part of our circuit team a few years ago.)

Thank you to all those who contributed to the Christmas vouchers for the ladies at NDADA. They were most appreciative of the kindness and sent a lovely 'Thank you' note to the church. It was left on the table in the foyer - this is just to let you know in case you missed it.

Eff



Tuesday coffee rota

Feb	7th	Wendy, Anne & Gill	Mar	7th	Tony, Celia & Lorna
Feb	14th	Pam, Rose & Sylvia	Mar	14th	Sylvia, Pam & Gordon
Feb	21st	Joy & Andy	Mar	21st	Wendy, Anne & Gill
Feb	28th	Ena, George & Rose	Mar	28th	Pam, Rose & Sylvia



Vera

Peter, Elaine, Maria and Anthea would like to thank all who helped in any way at the service in memory of Vera - those who decorated the church and prepared the refreshments and especially Rev Sue for her lovely service. We have had many complementary remarks regarding the service, so thank you all once again. Or as Vera would have it, "You have all been very kind".









Donations in memory of Vera amounted to £719.25
– shared between Christ Church,
the Stroke Unit at the hospital
and Christian Aid.

Our family matters

Christ Church Family News

There are many of our church family on the sick list and some house-bound. They are named in the Prayer Book, which is kept in the vestry and used in Sunday services and at prayer meetings.

If you would like your name to be added to the list in the Prayer Book please speak to the duty elder on a Sunday. If you know of someone who is unable to come on a Sunday, but would like their name added, please check with them first as the names in the book may be read out in church.

SUNDAY ROTAS	5th February	12th February	19th February	26th February
Coffee 	Joy Morley	Pam Topham	Nicola Wilkins	Elaine Stevens
Flowers 	The new rota for 2017 is available on the notice board in the vestibule. Please sign up for dates when you would like to provide flowers - they can be arranged for you if you prefer.			
Projector 	Andy Morley	David Wilson	Gordon Pearce	Jack Neville
Preparing Communion Morning 1st Sunday Evening 3rd Sunday	Gordon & Pam Pearce		Sylvia Jones	
Serving Communion 	Jack Neville Liz Seymour Mike Smith Mary Ruhleman			
Vestry Steward Morning Evening 	Jack Neville Anthea Coates	Gill Greenland Eff Poole	Ronnie Wilson Shirley Baxter	Ian Allen Sylvia Jones

Weekly Meetings

Monday		Short Mat Bowling ... contact Mary Biederman tel 373416
10.00am - 12.00 noon	morning session	
2.30pm - 4.30pm	afternoon session	
7.00pm - 9.00pm	evening session	
7.30pm	Friendship group	(2nd & 4th Mondays of each month) contact Rose de la Cour tel 830824
Tuesday		
9.30am - 12.00 noon	Coffee morning	
9.30am	Prayer meeting ... (except the last Tuesday of each month)	
10.30am	Holy Communion ... (last Tuesday of each month)	
5.30pm 6.30pm	Rainbows ...	contact Nicola Wilkins tel 377154
5.30pm - 7.00pm	Brownies ...	contact Nicola Wilkins tel 377154
7.00pm - 8.30pm	Guides ...	contact Eff Poole tel 373543
Wednesday		
1.30pm - 3.00pm	Parents & Toddlers	
Thursday		
2.30pm	Ladies Fellowship ...	contact Sylvia Jones tel 346607
7.30pm	Bible Study...	contact Rev Jonathan Richards tel 329288
Friday	10.00am - 12.00 noon	Hobnob coffee morning

All at Christ Church Barnstaple are committed to the following Safeguarding Principles:

- * the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults.
- * the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults.
- * the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
(Methodist Church Safeguarding Handbook 2010)

Sunday Offertory for November & December 2016

		Cash	Envelopes
November	6th	£	£
	13th	£	£
	20th	£	£
	27th	£	£
December	4th	£	£
	11th	£	£
	18th	£	£
	25th	£	

An increasing number of people are donating money direct to the Church account by standing order. Currently this offertory is £ per month. Not forgetting, of course, that *if you are a tax payer*, you can gift aid your offering however it is given.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Christ Church, Barnstaple (Methodist/United Reformed) seeks to be an ecumenical, town centre church, bearing witness to the evangelical and social justice traditions of the Christian faith in its expression of the love of Christ for people of all ages. One church, one faith, one Lord.

*If you are visiting Christ Church today we extend a warm welcome.
Please take a Messenger home with our good wishes.*

Christ Church Minister
Rev Don Macalister
8 Kestrel Way,
Westacott
Barnstaple EX32 8QN

tel. 01271 345313
dasmacalister@icloud.com

Young families worker
Jo Grant

jogrant-christchurch@outlook.com
tel 07450 582414

Elders

Ian Allen
Shirley Baxter
Anthea Coates
Gill Greenland

Kathy Jeacock (treas)
Sylvia Jones
Jack Neville
Eff Poole

Liz Seymour
Elaine Stevens (sec)
Ronnie Wilson

Telephone Directory (01271)

Church Secretary	as per the Church Directory
Church Treasurer	373555
Room Bookings	343218
Circuit Administrators	379116

Editors:

David Wilson	374020	david.devon@mac.com
Kathy Jeacock	373555	kjeacock@hotmail.com
Website		www.christ-church-barnstaple.org.uk
Circuit website		www.ilfracombe-barnstaplecircuit.org.uk
Email contact to site		webmaster@christ-church-barnstaple.org.uk



Nativity Trail around the town centre started out from our church on December 17th



Bethlehem donkey arrives via Clovelley



Sound it out Christmas session

Sound it out is a fortnightly group, particularly aimed at supporting people with memory loss and their carers. To find out more talk to Jo Grant or Sally Blackmore scheme.barnstaplechaplain@mha.org.uk